

SM-388  
Reintzell house  
Mechanicsville  
Private

circa 1870-1880

The Reintzell house is a substantial two-story, five bay, frame structure which stands next to the old railroad right of way in Mechanicsville. Currently, it is in great disrepair and the east wing is unoccupied. Although the structure is generally plain, its south elevation has an interesting two story pavilion lit by lancet windows on the second story.

The Reintzell house is visible from the Mechanicsville-Chaptico Road, but stands alone and appears unrelated to other village homes. It may be that a long drive once connected its east facade to the Mechanicsville-Chaptico Road. Now that this property between the house and the road has been transferred away, the old house appears stranded and strangely oriented.

SM-388, Reintzell house  
St. Mary's County  
Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme: Architecture

Resource Type

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function and Use: Private Residence

Known Design Source: Unknown

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-388

Magi No. SM-388

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Reintzell House

**2. Location**

street & number South side of Old Route 5 \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Mechanicsville \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county St. Mary's County

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture ___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial ___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment ___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government ___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial ___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military ___ other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Thomas Eugene Copsey

street & number P.O. Box 33 telephone no.: 301-884-3239

city, town Mechanicsville state and zip code MD 20659

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Clerk of Court liber DBK 195

street & number St. Mary's County Courthouse folio 41

city, town Leonardtown state MD

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. SM-388

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

The Reintzell house is located on the north side of the old railroad right of way and on the west side of the Mechanicsville-Chaptico road in Mechanicsville, Maryland. The house faces west with the principal gable oriented on a north/south axis. Two interior chimneys pierce the gable roof. The house is in poor condition.

The Reintzell house is a substantial two-story frame structure sheathed in asphalt shingles and weatherboard siding. The roof is covered with tin. The foundation material was not visible. The east wing is unoccupied.

The east (main) elevation is pierced on the first floor by one four-panel door with sidelights. To the north of this door is a second four-panel door with a transom window and one six-over-six sash window with narrow surrounds. To the south of the entrance door is a pair of six-over-six-sash windows with narrow surrounds. A screened porch with a hipped roof projects from the first floor, sheltering the two entrance doors. The second floor is lit by five six-over-six sash windows with narrow surrounds.

The north elevation is sheathed in weatherboard siding and the first floor is pierced by one six-over-six sash window with narrow surrounds and a four panel door. The second floor is lit by two six-over-six sash windows with narrow surrounds. The window which once lit the attic story is now covered in plywood.

The west elevation is pierced by two four-panel entrance doors, one of which has a two-light transom. These entrance doors are sheltered by a hipped roof portico supported by square posts. On either side of the doors are a pair of six-over-six sash windows with narrow surrounds. The second floor is lit by five six-over-six sash windows with narrow surrounds.

The south elevation has a four panel entrance door as its central bay on the first floor and one six-over-six sash window with narrow surrounds on the second floor. To the west is one six-over-six sash window on both the first and second floors. East of the center bay is a two-story, three-sided bay with a hipped roof. The south panel of this bay is pierced by one four-panel door with a two-light transom and a six-over-six sash window on the first floor, and two lancet windows on the second floor. The east side of this bay is lit by one six-over-six sash window with narrow surrounds on the first and second floor. The west side of the bay is pierced on the first floor by one six-over-six sash window with narrow surrounds and on the second floor by a four-panel door. The attic story was once lit by a window which is now covered with plywood.

The interior was not seen. There are no outbuildings.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. SM-388

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Unknown	Builder/Architect	Unknown
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D			
and/or			
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G			
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local			

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Reintzell house is a substantial structure which contributes to the historic character of Mechanicsville. Currently, it is in great disrepair and the east wing is unoccupied. Its future is uncertain.

A house was here by 1890 when Francis D. and Amanda Adams transferred their one and a half acre residence to John T. Ballenger. In 1898 this "house and lot" was occupied by Tom A. Reeder. It is unclear when the house was built, although the architectural style indicates an approximate construction date of circa 1870-1880. Ida Reintzell became possessed of the property in 1924. In the 1930s, the house was divided into apartments.

The Reintzell house is not very visible from Old Route 5. Although it is visible from the Mechanicsville-Chaptico Road, it stands alone and appears unrelated to other village homes. It may be that a long drive once connected its east facade to the Mechanicsville-Chaptico Road. Now that this property between the house and the road has been transferred away and built upon, the old house appears stranded and strangely oriented.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-388

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property one half acre, more or lessQuadrangle name MechanicsvilleQuadrangle scale 1:24000UTM References do NOT complete UTM referencesA 

Zone	Easting							Northing	

B 

Zone	Easting							Northing	

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** DBK 195/41: "...bounded on the north by the property of the late James D. Hayden, on the east by the property of the late Joseph Robrecht, on the south by the W.P. & C Railroad; on the west by the property of the late George H. Long..."

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Hughes-Historical Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County DPZdate 11/30/93

street &amp; number

telephone 301-475-4662city or town Leonardtownstate MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
ENCLOSURE  
FOR CLERK'S OFFICE  
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

— SM-388, Reintzell House  
St. Mary's County  
8.1 Chain of Title

TO: Thomas Eugene Copsey and Carrie C. Copsey, his wife.  
FROM: Willard B. Graves  
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber DBK 195, folio 41.  
DATE: July 26, 1973.  
NOTES: Parcel containing one half acre.

TO: Willard B. Graves  
FROM: Ida L. Reintzell, J. Leonard Pilkerton, and Mary J. Pilkerton, his wife.  
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JMM 11, folio 99.  
DATE: April 22, 1938.  
NOTES: Parcel contains one half acre. Price: \$800

TO: Ida L. Reintzell and J. Leonard Pilkerton  
FROM: M.E.Kirk  
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 2, folio 319.  
DATE: March 6, 1924.  
NOTES: Parcel contains one half acre. Price: \$1200

— TO: M.E.Kirk  
FROM: E. Luther Burroughs, Trustee.  
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EBA 12, folio 292.  
DATE: March 10, 1914.  
NOTES: Parcel consists of one half acre. Price: \$1000

TO: E. Luther Burroughs, Trustee.  
FROM: Mrs. Mary E. Burroughs, widow, E. Luther Burroughs and Alice B. Burroughs, his wife, James S. Burroughs and Mary E. Burroughs, his wife, Mandes Higgs and W. Preston Higgs, her husband, and William W. Burroughs, all of St. Mary's County, Annie M. Freeman of Prince George's County, C. Gwynn Burroughs and Mary C. Burroughs, his wife, Albert Burroughs and Leda R. Burroughs, his wife of Philadelphia, PA, Maggie M. Ryce and Robert M. Ryce, her husband of Washington D.C., all heirs of the late William T. Burroughs.  
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber EBA 12, folio 279.  
DATE: February 5, 1914.  
NOTES: Transfer of two parcels: 1.) Part of Trent Neck, also known as Turner Mill Farm, consisting of 100 acres. 2.) House and lot in Mechanicsville, consisting of one half acre, being bounded on the north by the property of D. Hayden, on the east by the property of Dr. Z.R.Morgan, on the south by the W.C.&P. Railroad, and on the west by the property of George H. Long.

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SM-388, Reintzell House  
St. Mary's County  
8.2 Chain of Title

TO: Heirs of William T. Burroughs  
FROM: William T. Burroughs  
RECORD:  
DATE:  
NOTE: William T. Burroughs appears to have died intestate.

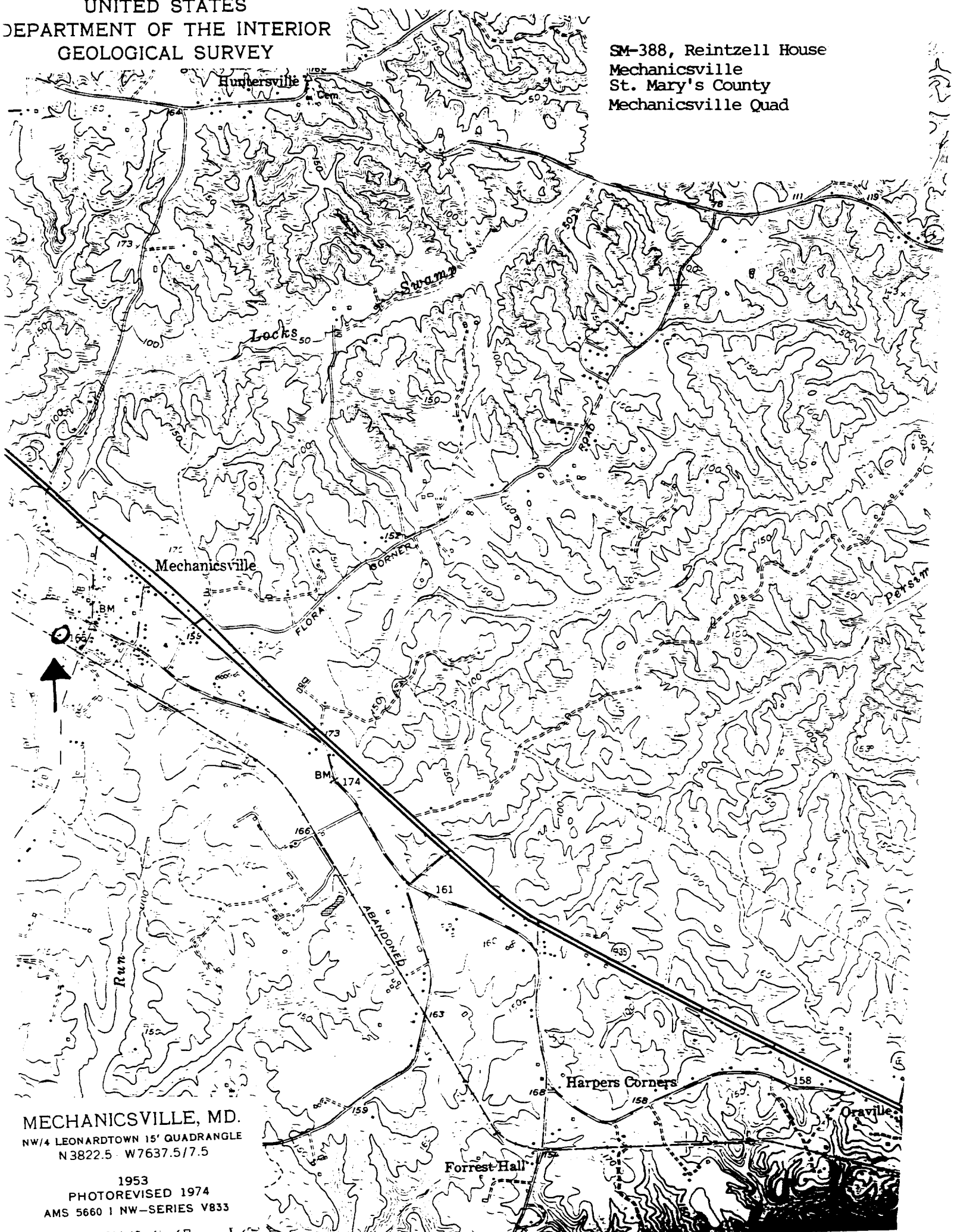
TO: William T. Burroughs  
FROM: John B. Ballenger and Genevieve Ballenger, his wife.  
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber EBA 2, folio 11.  
DATE: December 29, 1900.  
NOTES: This parcel contains one acre, more or less. Price: \$700

TO: John B. Ballenger  
FROM: John T. Ballenger  
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JJG 5, folio 99.  
DATE: February 4, 1898.  
NOTES: Transfer of two parcels: 1.) "the following described new store house and lot: beginning at the northeast corner of the Lot owned by John T. Ballenger, now occupied by A.E. Bowling and Company as a store house and Lot, running thence north to the intersection of S. Adams Lot and with said lot to the public road thence up and with the public road to the line of the property as aforesaid occupied by Bowling and Company and with said line to the beginning containing about one acre more or less." 2.) "Also a house and lot now occupied by Tom A. Reeder and described as follows: beginning at the southwest corner of Dr. Morgan's Lot and running with said Dr. Morgan's Lot to the division line of lot owned by John T. Ballenger, dividing this lot and the lot that A.E. Bowling occupies, thence with the said division line to G.H. Long's lot, thence with said lot to the intersection of the Railroad; thence with said Railroad to the beginning, containing one acre more or less."

TO: John T. Ballenger  
FROM: Francis D. Adams and Amanda Adams of Washington, D.C.  
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JFF 12, folio 292.  
DATE: November 11, 1890  
NOTES: Transfer of "the House and lot on which the said Francis D. Adams and Amanda Adams, his wife, formerly resided, bounded on the east by the Three Notched road, on the north by the land of George H. Long, on the west by the Southern Maryland Railroad, and on the south by the land of Z.R. Morgan containing one acre and a half more or less."

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

SM-388, Reintzell House  
Mechanicsville  
St. Mary's County  
Mechanicsville Quad



MECHANICSVILLE, MD.  
NW/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3822.5 W7637.5/7.5

1953  
PHOTOREVISED 1974  
AMS 5660 I NW-SERIES V833











